

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

Q  
L  
F

# THE BLOWN FUSE

CLUB STATION W6CUS

VOLUME LXX NUMBER 3

MARCH 2022

## EBARC Meetings

March 11, 2022, 7:30 p.m.  
TBA

Check your email for Zoom link



The Executive Board meets monthly before each general meeting. For the date, time, & location, contact officers at [EBHam.office@gmail.com](mailto:EBHam.office@gmail.com).

POSTMASTER:  
Address Correction Requested



FIRST CLASS MAIL

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.  
Post Office Box 1393  
El Cerrito, CA 94530

*The Blown Fuse* is published monthly by the East Bay Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and is free to its members. *The Blown Fuse* welcomes articles of interest to its members and amateur radio in general. *The Blown Fuse* reserves the right to edit or reject any material submitted. Material submitted becomes the property of *The Blown Fuse*. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce material printed herein provided proper acknowledgment is given. Editor: Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ

Deadline for Apr. issue: Tues., Mar. 22<sup>nd</sup>

Articles may be submitted by e-mail to [aa6xz@earthlink.net](mailto:aa6xz@earthlink.net).

---

## March 11<sup>th</sup> EBARC Meeting

The general EBARC meeting will again be held as a virtual Zoom meeting only. The Zoom link will be sent via email and be posted on [ebarc.org](http://ebarc.org). We hope you join us! Because of the pandemic, future meetings for (TBD) more months will also be held via Zoom.

---

## February 2022 General Minutes Todd Teachout, W8BIK, Secretary

The EBARC general meeting was held February 11, 2022, virtually, via the Zoom internet conferencing application as a result of COVID-19 pandemic restrictions. 23 people attended. The President called the meeting to order at 7:38 p.m.

A Zoom meeting invite with agenda was distributed via e-mail on 2/9/2022.

The President, Chris, welcomed attendees.

### Officer Reports:

Secretary: Todd Teachout reported that the draft January 2022 EBARC general meeting

minutes were published in the February 2022 *Blown Fuse* newsletter. He reported receiving a correction request regarding the discussion of a memorial donation for Lillian Fowler. The changes note Karen Fenton suggested the Club make a donation. Jan Kuhl made a motion that the Club donate \$50 to the Wounded Warrior Fund. Katie Carney seconded the motion. The motion passed. He reported corrections have been made to the minutes. Katie Carney motioned that the group approve the corrected minutes. Audrey Nieman seconded the motion. Minutes were approved by affirmation.

Treasurer: Audrey Nieman reported that the December starting balance was \$11,756.65. The club had \$460.00 in revenue from membership renewals. The club earned \$0.04 interest on deposits. The club had expenses of \$136.48 for storage space rental, a battery and file supplies. The ending fund balance is \$12,080.21 (of which \$5,000 is held in a certificate of deposit). Audrey encouraged those members who have not yet renewed to do so. The club is setting up the ability to accept electronic payments. An e-mail detailing the process will be sent out when set up.

2nd VP-Membership/Newsletter/VE Testing: Sharon Primbsch reported the deadline for articles for the March 2022 *Blown Fuse* newsletter is noted in the newsletter (February 22<sup>nd</sup>). As of today 45 members renewed their membership in EBARC. 20 members in 2021 have not yet renewed for 2022. She welcomed guests Dominic Beard and Chuck Thompson. Due to pandemic restrictions the January VE radio operator licensing test session did not occur. A pandemic-safe venue has not been located for doing inside sit-down tests. Jeff Miller suggested consideration of the training room at the Rodeo-Hercules Fire Protection District Station 76 on Refugio Road in Hercules. Jeff and Sharon will discuss the matter further outside of this meeting.

1<sup>st</sup> VP Programs: Katie Carney reported that the club station W6CUS was operated twice in January. On January 22, President Chris, held an open shack session at his home in Richmond to allow participation in the *North American QSO Party* as W6CUS. On January 29, 2022 W6CUS operated at the Rosie the Riveter National Historic Park in Richmond for *Winter Field Day 2022*. For coming programs Katie is hoping to have a presentation about the Ham Pi Application. Next month she also expects to start discussion of *Field Day 2022* planning.

President: Chris Harwood further discussed the QSO party he held at his home on January 22, 2022. A Kenwood TS-430S transceiver donated to Chris from Ron Smith because it wasn't working had been repaired and was used during the event. 32 contacts were made including 17 by Lorraine Schnurr. The activity provided people an opportunity to see and work the open and outdoor shack, to socialize, and to get tips on how to operate radios on the amateur bands, a challenge for members with relatively new licenses. Ham Pi, a software application that works on the Raspberry Pi computer (Model 3B was used at the event) was also being used for logging contacts. Ham Pi includes a ham clock, a propagation reporter, and a log.

For the *Winter Field Day* event on January 29, 2022 Chris thanked Katie, several club members who came out, and Mark Gilligan for experimenting with his solar panels at the event. W6CUS operated with a 100 amp hour battery for power. A moving coil antenna was mounted to a steel fence (creating a great ground plane). The moving coil allows the antenna to be tuned to operate multiple bands (though one at a time). The Park rangers were most accommodating and were open to future events. The rangers hope to participate in the future. 46 contacts were made. Lots of outreach about the event and the club happened because the table was located on a plaza space offset slightly from a popular shoreline trail. The location was also near a

restaurant and the Craneway Pavilion exhibition hall (the former Richmond Ford motor vehicle assembly plant). There was a roller derby training/demonstration session in the exhibition hall that coincided with the Field Day activities. A few lessons were learned from the event. Operation was planned to happen from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. It went until approximately 5:00 p.m., as the propagation was improving on the 40 meter band and more people were on the trail at the end.

Chris mentioned that a group of EBARC members took a tour of Contra Costa Community College's new Science Center building and took a look at the Fireside Auditorium. Member Lorraine Schnurr suggested looking at the college in hopes that the club and the college will be able to collaborate. The group was very impressed by the site as a possible future meeting location as well as a place to do events. A recently vacated science building nearby still had an antenna tower up suggesting that the college did support radio operations in the past. The college does have academic programs that could lend themselves to collaborating with EBARC. EBARC visitors were taken to the roof of the new building. From there all could see the Contra Costa Communication Club repeater antenna in the distance. Katie mentioned that she will follow up.

## **Old Business**

In Person Meeting Place: See President's report

**New Business-** See Programs, below.

## **Announcements-**

1. Katie mentioned that National Battery Day is on 3/8/2022.
2. The Department of Energy, in partnership with Berkeley Lab, is holding a *National Energy Storage Summit* on 3/8-9-2022.

The virtual conference is expected to have good door prizes. More information at <https://national-energystorage-summit.lbl.gov/>

3. Saturday a.m. EmComm nets schedule using the WA6KQB repeater has changed to the following times:
  - a. 14.110 MHz(PL82.5-) (2m) – 0900-0915
  - b. 444.275MHz(PL 82.5+)(70cm)— 0915-0930
  - c. 224.30MHz (PL82.5-) (1.25m) - 0930 to end
4. *UNESCO World Radio Day* is 2/13,2022
5. Jay Fenton announced there will be an antenna and tower take down and disassembly event coming up the weekend of February 19th at Sharon Primbsch's home.

## Program

Alan Biocca gave a presentation about his recent participation in Quartzfest in Arizona. The event occurred between January 23<sup>rd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>.

About 600 people attended, down from previous years likely due to the pandemic.

The event had nets, socially distanced gatherings, and happy hours each day. There were 30 presentations on various topics. Most, but not all, were related to ham radio. There were pico balloon launches, door prizes, and a yard sale (not a swap meet, to conform to prohibitions on commercial activities on the event site). There was a potluck and a hootenanny, too.

Javier Beltran, K6TNT, lead a SOTA hike and activation.

Given that the event was held on Bureau of Land Management Lands, there were hiking and off roading activities.

ARRL Southwestern Division Director, Richard Norton, N6AA, came to the festival and gave attendees a report about ARRL activities and had a Q & A session.

Alan gave three presentations: Antenna Launching, Choosing and using an E-Bike, and 3D Printing of ham radio accessories.

Alan summarized what he took with him with regard to his camping gear, his radio gear, and his all-terrain vehicle toys. He operated with an Elecraft K4 transceiver.

Guest Chuck Thompson attended the event joining in on the festivities and also discussed the radio and the offroading activities. He took the opportunity to make a pitch about his video series called *KK6USY Ham Radio Adventures*.

There are several video summaries of Quartzfest 2022 at the YouTube *HamNation* channel.

A Google search will lead interested persons to the videos.

Chris thanked Alan and Chuck for the Quartzfest reports. He also thanked other attendees for coming to tonight's meeting.

Chris motioned the meeting adjourn. D.J. Djovida seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m. Next meeting is March 11, 2022.

---

**More Righting Rules for Editors**

***Who needs rhetorical questions?  
Comparisons are as bad as cliches.  
Abandon ampersands & abbreviations, etc.***

---

# **Treasurer's Report**

## **January 2022**

**Audrey Nieman, W6BBQ, Treas.**

### JANUARY GENERAL FUND<sup>1</sup>

Beginning Balance .....\$12,080.21

#### Income:

Earned Interest .....\$0.04

2022 Dues..... 160.00

Total General Income: .....\$160.04

#### Disbursements:

Storage Locker.....\$103.00

Total General Disbursements .....\$103.00

Ending Balance.....\$12,137.25

(portion as petty cash .....\$40.00)

(portion as a US Bank CD ...\$5,000.00)

<sup>1</sup>\$100 earmarked for youth scholarships

---

## **More Interesting Stuff**

The *QSO Today Conference* is on March 12-13, 2022. Info: <https://qsotodayhamexpo.com>

March 18-19, 2022 is the *HamSCI Workshop* that will have activities which can be done

virtually or in person. More info at:  
<https://hamsci.org/hamsci2022>

---

Many thanks to Michael McMillan, K6MCM, for preafrooding this month's *Blown Fuse*.

---

## **Future Bay Area Events**

- Current Bay Area Public Service Events: See [www.ebarc.org](http://www.ebarc.org), click on "Current Events", then scroll to "Calendar of Bay Area Ham Radio Public Service Events."
- EBARC, ORCA, and ARCA sponsor joint ARRL VEC Amateur Radio test sessions quarterly at 9 a.m. in the Media Room, 1605 Martin Luther King Jr. Way (at 16<sup>th</sup> St.), Oakland. Because of COVID, the 2022 dates have not been set. The fee is \$15. Candidates must preregister at [davidotey@comcast.net](mailto:davidotey@comcast.net) or call 510-741-8227.
- East Bay Section ARRL ARES; [arrl.volunteerhub.com/lp/eb](http://arrl.volunteerhub.com/lp/eb). CoCoCo ACS Training: Details from "DJ" djovida, KJ6DJ, [kj6dj@arrl.net](mailto:kj6dj@arrl.net), (415) 215-6658, or via RACES net, 6:45 p.m., Thursdays on 145.11 MHz. Also see Sheriff Office's Communications Unit David Nielson, K6CDN, [davidnielson@yahoo.com](mailto:davidnielson@yahoo.com)

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club, founded in 1947, is a California non-profit organization of amateur radio operators in Contra Costa and Alameda counties. The club is open to anyone interested in amateur radio. Annual dues are \$30 for individual membership, \$35 for a family membership, and \$10 for students K-12. For information, send email to [ebham.office@gmail.com](mailto:ebham.office@gmail.com), contact any EBARC officer, see Web page [www.ebarc.org](http://www.ebarc.org), or write EBARC, P.O. Box 1393, El Cerrito, CA 94530. You can also follow us on Twitter using @w6cus, or on Facebook's "East Bay Amateur Radio Club."

## 2022 East Bay Amateur Radio Club Executive Committee

Chris Harwood, AA6AT, President .....  
 Katie Carney, KN6APB, 1<sup>st</sup> VP / Program Chair ..... 510-326-3886  
 Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP / Membership Chair ..... 510-741-8227  
 Todd Teachout, W8BIK, Secretary ..... 510-799-6051  
 Audrey Nieman, W6BBQ, Treasurer / Finance Chair ..... 510-682-7938

## 2022 EBARC's Other Committee Heads and Contacts

Steering Committee: Katie Carney, KN6APB ..... 510-326-3886  
*Blown Fuse* Editor: Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ ..... 510-741-8227  
 W6CUS Trustee: Chris Harwood, AA6AT .....  
 Webmaster: Chris Harwood, AA6AT .....

## AMATEUR RADIO NETS

NET	DAYS	LOCAL TIME	FREQ, MHZ
"Over the Hill Gang" Breakfast/Commute Net	Mo-Fr	0710 (PL 82.5-)	145.110
Contra Costa Com. Club Digital Net (by arrangement)	Tue*	1900 (PL 82.5+)	444.275
Contra Costa Communications Club Net	Tue	1930 (PL 82.5-)	224.300
"QRM Net"	Tue	1930 (PL 82.5-)	224.300
UCB ARC (W6BB) EMMCOMM Net	1 <sup>st</sup> Wed	1200 (PL 131.8+)	440.900
UCB ARC (W6BB) EMMCOMM Net	1 <sup>st</sup> Wed	1200 (PL 107.2-)	145.490
UCB ARC (W6BB) EMMCOMM Net	1 <sup>st</sup> Wed	1200 simplex	145.430
UCB ARC (W6BB) Club Net	Wed	1900 (PL 103.5+)	442.275
West Contra Costa EMCOMM Net	Thu	1845 (PL 82.5-)	145.110
KARO/ECHO ARES EMCOMM Net	Thu	~1900 simplex	146.415
NALCO ARES EMCOMM Net	Thu	1915 (PL 131.8+)	440.900
Oakland ARES Emergency Communications Net	Thu	1930 (PL 77-)	146.880
Contra Costa Communications Club Net	Thu	1930 (PL 82.5-)	145.110
Bay Shores Richmond EMCOMM Net	Sat	0900 (PL 82.5-)	145.110
Bay Shores Richmond EMCOMM Net	Sat	0915 (PL 82.5+)	444.275
Bay Shores Richmond EMCOMM Net	Sat	0930 (PL 82.5-)	224.300

ACS West CoCoCo: "DJ" djovida, KJ6DJ, [kj6dj@arrl.net](mailto:kj6dj@arrl.net), (415) 215-6658.\*  
 Frequencies: #1=145.110, #2=147.570s.